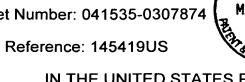


## PATENT APPLICAT

Docket Number: 041535-0307874

Client Reference: 145419US



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of

KAZUHIRO SHIBA, et al.

Group Art Unit: 3722

Application No.: 10/767,264

Examiner: E. Cadugan

Filed: January 30, 2004

Confirmation No.: Unassigned

For: LINEAR GUIDE APPARATUS

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner return an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 to Applicants with the next Office communication to indicate that the reference(s) has been considered, per MPEP § 609.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.

The cited references were first cited in an Office Action issued February 23, 2005 by the German Patent Office in the corresponding German patent application. A copy of this Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information.

English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references are attached hereto.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeffrey D. Karceski

Registration Number 35914 Customer Number: 00909

Date: May 4, 2005

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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

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Subs	stitute for form 1449A/PTO			Complete if Known			
•				Application Number	10/767,264		
IN	FORMATION DISC	CLOSU	IRE	Filing Date	01/30/2004		
	TATEMENT BY AF			First Named Inventor	KAZUHIRO SHIBA		
•	IAILINENI DI AI			Art Unit	3722		
	(Use as many sheets as nec	essary)		Examiner Name	E. Cadugan		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	041535-0307874		

Examiner	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant
initials*	No.'	Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (if known)</sup>	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1				Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		DE	4438948	A1	05/1996	Bode		<u> </u>
		DE	19738987	Al	09/1998	Klein, et al.		
		DE	19544534	A1	06/1997	Helmreich		
		DE	19533077	C2	03/1996	Rotzetter		<u> </u>
					1			

Examiner	Date	
Signature	Considered	
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="https://www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Paternation Officer, U.S. Paternation Officer, U.S. Paternation Officer, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.